

BOYS' AND.

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GIRLS' PAGE.

PHILIP'S RUNAWAY ROLLER SKATES

Once upon a time there was a certain little boy who had such a bad memory that people sometimes called him Forgetful Philip. His mother because he either forgot to go to school or forgot what he had been sent for. One day, however, she was unusually busy and there was nobody else to go to the store for her.

"Run as fast as you can Philip, please," said she, "and tell the man I want a dozen eggs and a pint of milk and two pounds of butter. To-morrow is sister's birthday party and I must make her cake this afternoon. Now don't forget, Philip, for I shall have no time to make the cake to-morrow."

Philip said he would remember—he was sure that he would—and off he started down the street. As he went along he thought about the cake and how good it would taste, and how he began to wish that to-morrow were his birthday. "If it was," he said to himself, "I would ask father for a pair of roller skates—good ones, and forgetting all about his errand, Philip sat down under a tree to dream of what a fine time he might have if he only had those skates!"

After a while some little girls came along skipping rope and asked Philip to turn for them. He played with them till they got tired and ran home and then Philip was astonished to notice that it was growing late. The sun was stretching out long yellow fingers to shake hands good night and the mother birds were singing bedtime songs to their babies in the branches. Suddenly the boy remembered his errand. The eggs, the butter and the milk!

The grocery store would soon be closing, and poor sister would not have any birthday cake! Philip started to run as fast as he could and as he went he saw a boy speeding along on roller skates ahead of him, a queer looking boy in a pointed red cap and a little green jacket.

"Must be the fellow next door," thought Philip. "If I only had his skates—why, then, he's stopping. Maybe he would lend them to me." But by the time Philip caught up the queer little boy had disappeared through the doorway of a house, leaving his shiny new skates lying on the steps. Without stopping to think Philip sat down and put them on. They were just the right size for him. "I'll only borrow them to go as far as the store," he thought. "Hurrah, I'm off!"

And off he went, not at any ordinary roller skate rate, but with a glide and a swoop and a plunge that soon made him dizzy and breathless. He had never known he was such a fine skater. "But I'd better slow down," he thought, "before I run into somebody!" This sounded well, but Philip found it impossible to do it. Faster, faster and even faster yet the skates would whirl him onward, but stop they would not. Philip understood at last, these were no common skates, they were running away with him.

In and out through the crowd without as much as grazing any one, on and on they rushed till they bore Philip past the door of the grocery store. He put out his hand and grabbed at the door post, but it was no use, the magic skates would not stop. Now they were coming to the end of Main street, where the pavement changed to an ash walk. Bumpety-bump-bump, on rolled the skates just as fast as over the smooth sidewalk, only now poor Philip's teeth chattered in his head. Now they had turned into a narrow little lane that led to a pasture. A stone wall was at the end of it, Philip knew, with a gate that was almost always locked.

He would not go this way, yet he had to. Straight at the wall the skates dashed, one last mighty stroke, and up and over they went, landing Philip on his nose in the long grass. He was not hurt, and he soon sat up and looked about him.

"Aha," squeaked a small sharp voice, "so it's Forgetful Philip. You would steal my skates, would you?"

"No use," cried the little man, who was laughing so that he almost fell off the clover. "They won't come off till I say the magic word."

"Now run along home, boy," said he. "But what's the matter? You're looking down in the mouth yet?"

Philip sighed. "It's about the milk and the butter and the eggs," he explained. "You see, I was to fetch them from the grocery store, but now it's too late, and my sister won't have any birthday cake!"

"Hm! That's bad," said the elf. "Why don't you try a flower store?"

"Why—because—you can't buy butter and milk and eggs at a florist's!" Philip answered.

"Stupid!" snapped the elf. "You talk like a Grown-up! I didn't say a florist's."

"Ingenious!"

My Doggie's Leader's lost.

and I To leave him home - have strong objections And so I'll fix it up this way -

Said Sue - "I'll ask him leading questions"

I said a flower store—and you'd better be quick, for even they are closing up. This way to the butter and egg shop! And off he darted through the grass to where a pale yellow flower with a touch of bright orange at its heart was away in the breeze. Up its slender stem climbed the little man.

"Quick!" he cried. "How much butter did you say? How many eggs?"

"Two pounds—one dozen," Philip answered, staring at him in amazement. The elf vanished for a moment inside the flower but reappeared almost immediately quite laden down with bundles. He hurried back to Philip and presented him with twelve tiny white eggs—butterfly's eggs Philip took them to be, and a dot of yellow butter almost as large as a pill and neatly wrapped in a piece of a green leaf.

"Good-by, and thank you very much indeed," cried Philip, and thrusting the eggs, milk and butter in his pocket he leaped over the wall and started for home. Although he had no magic skates now to whirl him along, yet it took him a surprisingly short time to reach his mother's door. She was standing there waiting for him and as soon as she saw him she called out: "Why, Philip, how late you are! I was beginning to think you had forgotten. But never mind, there's time enough yet to make the cake."

"Why, what beautiful large eggs! And what perfectly delicious looking butter!"

Philip looked down and there seated comfortably on a clover head was a tiny fellow in a pointed red cap and green jacket. Although he had shrunk so extremely Philip knew him at once. It was the same boy who had skated down the street, about of him.

"I'm very sorry," said Philip politely, for he knew this must be an elf he was talking to. "I wish now I'd never taken from your skates. Here, you can have them back." And stooping down Philip begged to undo his skate straps.

And what rich creamy milk! We shall have a fine cake.

For the fairy groceries, you see, as Philip took them out of his pocket, had turned into the regular store kind, only much nicer. It had been a wonderful afternoon, Philip thought, and he made up his mind that just as soon as his mother got time to listen to him he would tell her all about it. But first she had to make the cake and then it was supper time and after that Philip was so sleepy he was obliged to go to bed and next morning—well, you know what a forgetful boy he was—when morning came Philip had forgotten every one of his adventures!

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THE TIDES OF THE SEA.

If you have ever lived near the seashore, you must have seen one of the most wonderful things in the world, the daily ebb and flow of the tides as they come and go twice a day, so silently and gradually that one does not realize the tremendous power behind their motion.

When the tide is going down we call it ebb tide, and say it is going out. When it is rising we call it flood tide and say it is coming in. The rise and fall of the tides is much greater at some places than at others. At Willets Point, the entrance to the Sound, it rises as high as eight feet at times, while at New London, at the other end of the Sound, it may not rise more than two or three feet.

Did you ever stop to think what it means for an immense body of water like the Sound to be six or seven feet deeper than it was six hours before, and then for this immense body of water to go away again? A dock that the waves almost wash over, and which you can step onto from a boat at noon is standing in a mud bank at evening.

Those who have words which are not correctly spelled lose a point in the game. It is lots of fun to hear the questions some boys ask, such as, "Is there such a word as 'fence'?" spelling it with a c. Words that have letters not in the big word lose a point.

There are several words that are good ones for this game, such as congregation, with its two g's and two o's. Ostensibly is another good one and gregariously is very useful because it contains all the vowels including y.

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be made up of letters that come together in the same order in the big word. This rule bars such a word as "pen." At the end of the ten minutes each player calls out the number of words found and the one with the longest list then calls out the words so that those who have the same word on their lists may cross it off. The winner is the one that has the most words that no one else has found. Sometimes this will be a boy or girl with a very short list, because the words they have found were not found by any of the others.

Very few children know the trick of playing this game, which is to begin with the shortest words, those that have only one vowel in them and to glance over the consonants in the big word and pick out as many small words as you can as quickly as possible, such as dip, cup, cur, pun and then take two vowels in words of one syllable, such as rule, pipe, dice, race, rice. After you have hit upon a number of these do not waste time looking for more, but jump at once to words of two syllables, like paper, pencil, apple, cradle and as many as come to you readily that are even longer.

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